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STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

LISA M. LANGE, L.P.N.,

RESPONDENT.

LS9502061NUR

The State of Wisconsin, Board of Nursing, having considered the above-captioned matter and having reviewed the record and the Proposed Decision of the Administrative Law Judge, makes the following:

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the Proposed Decision annexed hereto, filed by the Administrative Law Judge, shall be and hereby is made and ordered the Final Decision of the State of Wisconsin, Board of Nursing.

The rights of a party aggrieved by this Decision to petition the department for rehearing and the petition for judicial review are set forth on the attached "Notice of Appeal Information."

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STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING

In the Matter of Disciplinary Proceedings Against LISA M. LANGE, L.P.N. LS 9502061 NUR

PROPOSED DECISION

The parties to this proceeding for purposes of s. 227.53, Stats., are:

Lisa M. Lange, L.P.N. N2475 County Highway EM Watertown WI 53094

Board of Nursing
Department of Regulation and Licensing
P.O. Box 8935
Madison WI 53708

Division of Enforcement
Department of Regulation and Licensing
P.O. Box 8935
Madison WI 53708

A hearing was held in this matter on March 16, 1995. Attorney Steven M. Gloe appeared for the Division of Enforcement. There was no appearance by or on behalf of Ms. Lange, nor was any answer filed by her or on her behalf. The Division moved for a finding of default pursuant to s. RL 2.14, Wis. Admin. Code, on proof that service had been made upon Ms. Lange and that there had been no response from Ms. Lange.

On the basis of the entire record in this matter, the Administrative Law Judge recommends that the Board of Nursing adopt the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order as its Final Decision in this proceeding.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Lisa M. Lange is licensed as a practical nurse in the state of Wisconsin, under license #28981, first granted on May 22, 1987.
- 2. Ms. Lange's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Board of Nursing is N2475 County Highway EM, Watertown, Wisconsin 53094.

3. On exact dates unknown, but beginning approximately in March, 1992 and continuing through March 5, 1993, Ms. Lange diverted unknown quantities of controlled substances, including Darvocet and codeine, for her personal use from her nursing employer, Lutheran Homes of Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. Ms. Lange has in addition on exact dates unknown engaged in the illicit use of cocaine.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Board of Nursing has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to s. 441.07, Stats.
- 2. By diverting controlled substances from her employer for her personal use, and by engaging in the illicit use of cocaine, Ms. Lange has violated s. 441.07(1), Stats., and ss. N7.04(1),(2), and (15), Wis. Admin. Code.

ORDER

Now, therefore, it is ordered that the license previously issued to Lisa M. Lange to practice as a practical nurse in the state of Wisconsin be and hereby is suspended for an indefinite period of time, until further Order of the Board of Nursing.

OPINION

By failing to respond to the Notice of Hearing and Complaint in this matter, Nurse Lange has permitted the Board of Nursing to deal with the allegations of the complaint as true.

The Division of Enforcement noted during the hearing in this matter that Nurse Lange is unemployed, and although she has apparently indicated an interest in pursuing rehabilitation she apparently does not have the financial capacity to commit to a rehabilitation plan likely to be acceptable to the Board. In recognition of this circumstance, the Division recommended that discipline be limited to an indefinite suspension, so as to permit the Board the greatest possible opportunity to draft an acceptable plan as soon as Ms. Lange's circumstances permit her return to the practice of nursing. The recommendation seems eminently reasonable, and I adopt it.

I decline to order the costs of the proceeding imposed against Nurse Lange, in recognition that the costs are necessarily minimal, that they are unlikely to collected, and if imposed, will likely be an unnecessary added hurdle to Nurse Lange's full rehabilitation and return to practice.

Dated this 17th day of March, 1995.

James E. Polewski

Administrative Law Judge

NOTICE OF APPEAL INFORMATION

Notice Of Rights For Rehearing Or Judicial Review, The Times Allowed For Each, And The Identification Of The Party To Be Named As Respondent.

Serve Petition for Rehearing or Judicial Review on:

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN BOARD OF NURSING.

P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708.

The Date of Mailing this Decision is:

MAY 9, 1995.

1. REHEARING

Any person aggrieved by this order may file a written petition for rehearing within 20 days after service of this order, as provided in sec. 227.49 of the Wisconsin Statutes, a copy of which is reprinted on side two of this sheet. The 20 day period commences the day of personal service or mailing of this decision. (The date of mailing this decision is shown above.)

A petition for rehearing should name as respondent and be filed with the party identified in the box above.

A petition for rehearing is not a prerequisite for appeal or review.

2. JUDICIAL REVIEW.

Any person aggrieved by this decision may petition for judicial review as specified in sec. 227.53, Wisconsin Statutes a copy of which is reprinted on side two of this sheet. By law, a petition for review must be filled in circuit court and should name as the respondent the party listed in the box above. A copy of the petition for judicial review should be served upon the party listed in the box above.

A petition must be filed within 30 days after service of this decision if there is no petition for rehearing, or within 30 days after service of the order finally disposing of a petition for rehearing, or within 30 days after the final disposition by operation of law of any petition for rehearing.

The 30-day period for serving and filing a petition commences on the day after personal service or mailing of the decision by the agency, or the day after the final disposition by operation of the law of any petition for rehearing. (The date of mailing this decision is shown above.)